

A photograph of a young child in a purple snow suit and black hat, climbing a thin tree trunk in a snowy forest. The child is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is filled with snow-covered trees and a bright sky.

the Nation

Volume 3, No. 3 • December 29, 1995

every two weeks

Happy New Year!!!

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NORTHERN NORTHERN NORTHERN

WASKAGANISH **WHAPMAGOOSTUI** **MISTISSINI**
NORTHERN **SANDY'S** **MEECHUM**
CORNERSTORE

BE IT RESOLVED...

A new year is upon us. Isn't it always strange that it is only this time of year (besides birthdays) that we all look back and reflect on our past.

This is why it is the time that we make resolutions to further ourselves in the game of life. We draw on our past experiences, this past year and others before, and determine how we can be a better human being.

It may be smoking, drinking, wieght, whatever but we all agree there is someway that we can change our lives to be better. At the very least we tell these things privately to our innermost selves, especially the tough ones.

Sometimes we make it and keep those resolutions and sometimes we don't.

The important thing though is that you make them. When you stop you are giving up on yourself because all those resolutions come from the foundation of your being. A realization of the past that made you what you were helps determine your future direction in keeping with what you believe in. Not only is hope alive in a resolution but the realization that you are in some way still learning and growing.

Once personal growth stops you become like a clogged up creek... stagnant. So even if you don't think you need to make a resolution this year, sit back and take another look. No one and nothing is perfect. There is always room for improvement no matter how big or small.

I wish you luck in making and fufilling those resolutions this year. My personal resolution is to make a stranger smile and a friend laugh at least once a week. I also plan to do something about those bad hair days. Alex Roslin's resolution I hear is to figure out how to drive his bike all



NEIL DIAMOND

The Nation's jolly staffers.

winter without freezing his bu... er, nose off. Ernie Webb promises to wake up earlier. At least that's what I think I overheard. Neil Diamond promises to root out *all* the interesting gossip in the Cree communities. Look for him at any bedroom window peering in. I think this one was a joke... I hope! Deantha Edmonds, our in-house opera singer, has promised to show me how to shatter a glass with my singing voice. Catherine Bainbridge promises to stop smoking January 8th and again on February 8th. Linda Ludwig, our accountant and social convenor, promises to find better hiding places for the petty cash. Rhonda Sherwood, our marketing director, says she'll finally get some of those scratch-and-sniff perfume ads in *The Nation*. Katerina Cizek, Joanne Grenon and Nian Matoush are worried about their parents reading this so no comment. Paul Rickard says hi to everyone at home.

May you and yours know the fullness of the blessings of the Creator in he coming year.

by William Nicholls

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COVER:

Waskaganish child at play.
Photo by Neil Diamond

DECEMBER 29, 1995



Rez Notes comes to you, in part, this time from the 18th floor of the Cree Lodging in Montreal. It's best, I think, if I don't reveal the room number. I'm surrounded by unwrapped gifts as I write this. There's a giant unmarked box containing the latest in TV technology in one corner and a really fancy stereo in the other. There are various other objects in shopping bags scattered all over the floor. None of which, unfortunately, are for me. A luckier person than I is getting a TV this Christmas. I, on the other hand, will no doubt get the usual pair of socks and long johns. But enough of my great expectations.

Here's a story that will surely be included in the annals of Cree criminal ineptness. You might recall Rez Notes' bit having to do with the "borrowed" money and the shopping spree from the last issue. An informed source who was in the vicinity has graciously provided us with more details that are sure to amaze and astound. The story goes that this guy, after allegedly taking a bag containing \$60,000 destined for the Wemindji Caisse Pop, went to the very bank the money allegedly belonged to in Eastmain and allegedly tried to make a deposit. He also allegedly bought a new truck but allegedly it hadn't been delivered yet when he heard the "Man" knocking on his door. Anyway, this story has a multitude of other allegations and embarrassing details in it but the authorities aren't talking. As far as we've been able to find out, no arrests have yet been made. Who are they waiting

for? Inspector Santa Claus? 'Tis the season when heads must roll!!!

Merriment reigned on Montreal's streets when they were overrun by jolly Crees of all shapes and sizes doing what they do best, shopping and attending meetings trying to decide how to spend our money.

The casino was a popular diversion for the visitors. A neophyte gambler from Chisasibi thought she broke the slot machine she was playing on when it started spitting out 650 loonies. Doris was going to walk away from the machine but luckily her more experienced gambling mate stepped in and saved the day. A well known "professional" from Waskaganish won \$1,600, I was told.

"Goose downs hunter." Reuter news has thought it fit to inform us of the hunter in Amsterdam who suffered a concussion and a broken cheekbone from a falling goose another hunter shot. I bet he was on drugs.

The Nation, the multi-award winning newsmagazine (OK, OK, so it won two awards), achieved another milestone a few weeks ago when it celebrated its two years of existence. Has it been that long? It seems like just yesterday when the phone rang one evening and Ernest asked, "Do you wanna help us out? We're starting a newspaper." My first question was, "What are you gonna call it?" (We actually talk like this.) The rest, of course, as they say, is Cree history. We hope.

Ndiamon

the Nation



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IYYUU/IINUU EDITOR

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PHOTOGRAPHY

NEIL DIAMOND, PIERRE LEMAY

LAYOUT & PRODUCTION

ERNEST WEBB, ALEX ROSLIN, WILLIAM NICHOLLS, NEIL DIAMOND

GRAPHICS

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BUSINESS & SALES

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PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO:

THE NATION PRODUCTION OFFICE

5678 PARC AVE.

P.O. Box 48036

MONTREAL,

CANADA H2V 4S8

EDITORIAL

TEL.: 514-272-3077

FAX: 514-278-9914

THE NATION HEAD OFFICE

P.O. Box 151

CHISASIBI, QC. J0M 1E0

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SACRED ASSEMBLY '95

"The Creator wants to restore justice in this country and wants to restore the land to the original people—that's why we're having this gathering," says Elijah Harper, whose vision of unity brought more than 2,000 people to the Sacred Assembly '95 in Hull, Quebec on Dec. 6 to 9.

"The Assembly is meant to give us respect for each other and to provide reconciliation. That's why it's sacred. We come here to share."

Harper called the assembly in September in response to increasing frustration and violence in First Nations communities. The assembly brought together Native Elders and spiritual leaders, Chiefs, youth, politicians, church representatives and others for four days of listening, learning, talking, praying and worshipping.

At the end of the assembly, delegates adopted a Reconciliation Proclamation and a Statement of Principles and Priorities for a New Relationship that outline the common values and objectives of those gathered. It also calls on the federal government to accept responsibilities for injustices committed against the First Nations and fulfill its promises to correct them.



"THAT FLAME INSIDE US..."

- **ETHEL BLONDIN-ANDREW**

"Power is not given, it is taken; opportunities are not given, they are taken."

Following a prayer by Elder Lawrence Saddleback, Elijah Harper and Co-chair Gerald Morin of the Métis National Council introduced the morning session. This was followed by an address from Ethel Blondin-Andrew, federal Secretary of State, Youth and Training.

Appealing to "those whose wounds go deep," she told listeners that when her wounds start to show, she goes back to her people, who "fill that lonely space." "The only power that Aboriginal peoples will ever have is the power they give each other," she said.

Commenting on the "very distinct" culture of Aboriginal peoples, she expressed sadness because "though we can do great things... the wounds are overwhelming." A wounded bird can't fly or protect itself, she said. This pain is "like a spear that goes through the hearts of our ancestors" and keeps on going through the generations.

It's almost like it's invisible to others, but "we know and feel it." It is a wounding of the psyche of the nation. "Today is an opportunity for people to rise up and stop that traveling lance, that spear of pain."

Power, opportunities and answers are not given—they are taken, she emphasized. "I really believe part of reconciliation is owning yourself."

Despite all the problems, there are 53 Aboriginal languages. She speaks Dene, she said, "because I'm a survivor like you." And another 125 years isn't going to change that revolutionary spirit, "that flame inside us."

Blondin-Andrew stressed the importance of youth issues, justice and education. Citing Mother Teresa's definition of loneliness as the biggest problem in the world, she said a child who is not nurtured is like a bird with a broken wing—it can't protect itself.

"I'm here to tell you I understand," she

RECONCILIATION PROCLAMATION

We, the delegates to Sacred Assembly '95, gathered together in Hull, Quebec on Dec. 6-9, 1995, having come from the four corners of this land—East, West, North and South—and having brought with us diverse spiritual backgrounds, and having listened to and prayed with Elders, spiritual leaders and with each other, are now able to assert the following:

WE SHARE, AS PART OF OUR COMMON SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION,

THE BELIEF THAT:

- ♦ the Creator God reigns supreme over all things;
- ♦ the land on which we live was created for the benefit of all;
- ♦ as the original inhabitants of this land, Aboriginal peoples have a special right and responsibility to ensure the continuing integrity of the land and the unity and well-being of its inhabitants, and;
- ♦ non-Aboriginal Canadians also share in these responsibilities.

WE SHARE THE RECOGNITION

- ♦ that reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians must be

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said. She praised the leaders at the national and community levels, urging them to "bring it together, bring it home and give it to our young people. Let's not have a leadership that's divided."

As he thanked Blondin-Andrew, Elijah Harper said, "We have the spiritual authority in this country to lead—not just our own Aboriginal nations but also the rest of Canada. Within our home, we have the authority to speak."

Reconciliation begins at home

Elder Fred Plain's introductory comments addressed injustice.

He heard genuine remorse in the churches' apologies, he said, but challenged those who have pledged reconciliation to use their strength and influence with the governments of Canada. He also challenged the Canadian government to practice what it claims to believe. "To me justice is more than the administration of man-made laws; justice must flow out of the heart of the Creator."

Chief Abel Bosum of Ouje-Bougoumou explained how the exploitation of natural resources in his people's territory led to many social problems including poor housing, drug and alcohol abuse and family violence. But with the encouragement of Elders, Chief Bosum and his community sought recognition of their entitlement to land.

An agreement in the late 1980s and subsequent developments led to recognition as a model community by the United Nations. "Reconciliation," he concluded, "begins at home with our families."

Tony Belcourt of the Métis Nation of Ontario said much was happening at the Assembly that was leading to reconciliation. He also said there had been "a litany of stories that demonstrate that a great fraud has been perpetuated on our people." Métis people know this well, he said. They have been excluded from the land-claims process, among many other things.

Chief Sydney Garrioch spoke of his community's accomplishments in negotiations and other initiatives, particularly in child and family services. "We can help ourselves to make a difference," agreed moderator Alex Akiwenzie. "You have a voice."

"Justice is more than the administration of man-made laws..."

- Elijah Harper

Chief Abel Bosum
(centre)

Photo by Jim Wallace



continued from page 5

rooted in a spiritual understanding of land as a gift from the Creator God;

- ♦ the sins of injustice which have historically divided Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples remain active in our society today;

- ♦ concrete actions must be taken by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples alike to overcome these injustices and to bind up the wounds of those who have suffered.

WE SHARE AN UNDERSTANDING

- ♦ that the starting point for healing and reconciliation lies in personal communion with the Creator God;

- ♦ while change must take place at all levels of society, it must be rooted most firmly in the communities, and

- ♦ relations based on justice will require respect for past treaties, a fair settlement of land rights disputes the implementation of the inherent right of self-government and the creation of economic development opportunities and other institutions to support it.

WE SHARE A COMMITMENT

As individuals:

- ♦ to seek the personal guidance and counsel of Elders and spiritual leaders in order to walk more closely with the Creator God;

- ♦ to return to our communities and develop ways to continue the process of healing and reconciliation that has begun

at Sacred Assembly '95;

- ♦ to continue to explore with each other our sacred foundations, in order to bring about spiritual reconciliation, Aboriginal justice and the fulfillment of political responsibilities in this country;

- ♦ to continue to respect the differences in our spiritual journeys, even as we seek to discover the common spiritual link between us.

As churches and faith communities:

- ♦ to continue the process of healing and reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples, by providing the forums and supports needed to heal the wounds created in the past;

- ♦ to become stronger advocates for justice and reconciliation in current and future public affairs, and to hold our governments accountable for their implementation of just policies;

- ♦ to recommit ourselves to a program of education and action on issues relating to land rights, self-government, economic development and racism.

As First Nations and Aboriginal communities and organizations:

- ♦ to work towards healing and reconciliation within our own communities;

- ♦ to accept the challenge issued by our Youth to create an environment in our communities that encourages a healthy view of oneself and respect for others, and addresses community conflict that prevents Youth from finding their path.



REATEST GIFT FOR OUR CHILDREN



nother year draws to a close and we will soon be welcoming a new one. As families come together to celebrate during this holiday season, there is a closeness we all feel knowing our children are our future. For any parent, their youthful laughter and joy is what makes this time so magical and special. Together, we have made it through another year. It has been a learning experience for us, parents and children alike.



ne of the greatest gifts you can give your children is the opportunity and tools to become responsible citizens of your community. This is how we were raised by our parents. With time comes change. We now have a Cree controlled educational system that helps prepare our children for the challenges that lie ahead.

Yet, this system can only complement, not substitute the invaluable knowledge a parent can pass on to his or her child.



n the past, our parents and grandparents were the primary teachers who gave the necessary information to develop our children into self-reliant contributors to the Cree communities. Today, our children have the advantage of combining this education with the one they receive at school. Your schools in the communities are there to assist you in the process of helping your child become an integral part of the community. In our changing world, your child's success in attaining this goal is directly related to your constant support and encouragement in both school and in traditional lifestyle. Be not only proud of your child, but be proud of the knowledge you can offer him or her.



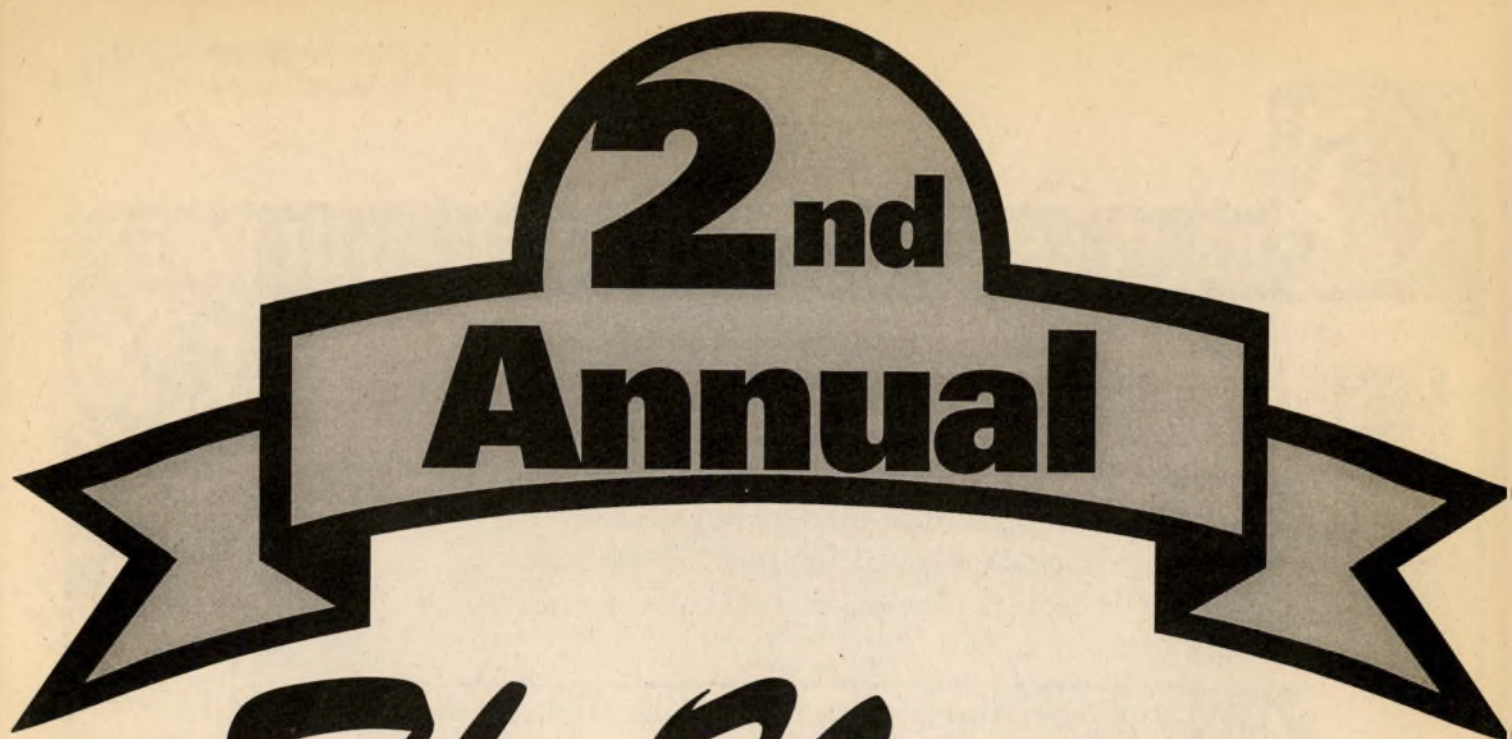
ur hope for 1996 at the Cree School Board is to provide more opportunities for parental involvement with our children's education in order to ensure they will have the success in life that they deserve. We extend to you our best wishes for this holiday season. From everyone at the Cree School Board, we hope the next year is the best one yet for you and your family.

COMMISSION
SCOLAIRE CRIE



THE CREE
SCHOOL BOARD

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The Nation

&

**CREE
SCHOOL
BOARD**

Essay Contest



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2nd Place
CREE CATEGORY
Bob Rupert
Grade 3
Age 8

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-Ed.

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tar
ammonia
cyanide
lead



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emphysema
cancer
asthma
eye, ear, nose and
throat infections
bronchitis
gum disease
and so on.

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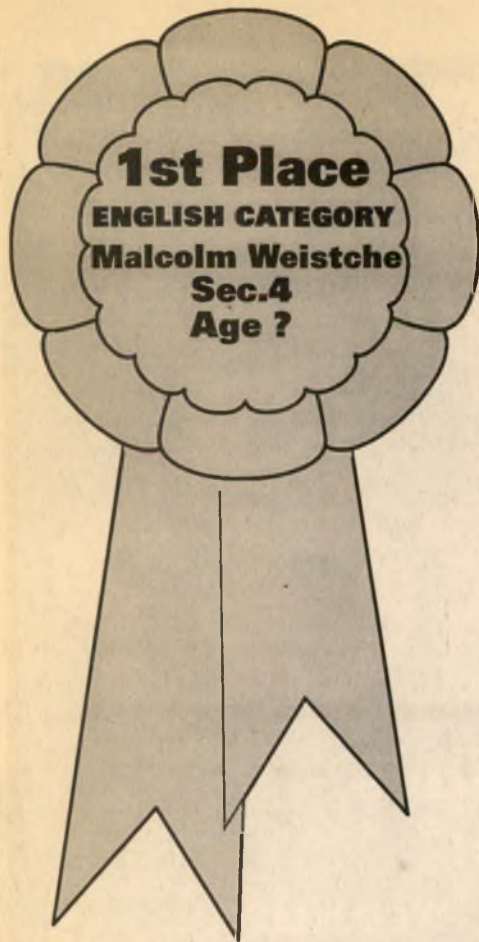


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Essay on Sports

My essay is going to be on sports. Why did I choose this topic? Because this is the only one that I was interested in. I will start off by telling you about some of the sports that people like the most around here. Some of the sports that people like around here are hockey, broomball, basketball and watching WWF wrestling on television. The ones that people play the most are hockey and broomball.

My favourite sport is basketball. The reason why I like it is because there is no violence in it like bodychecking in hockey. It is a really fun sport once you learn how to play. You don't have to wear all that equipment.

The sport that I hate the most is hockey. Why? Because it sucks and all the good players just hog the puck. When your team loses the goalie or the worst player on the team usually gets all the blame. It costs too much and it takes too long to sharpen your skates. It takes too long to get all dressed up in your hockey equipment and your back hurts while you are playing.

The sport that girls play the most is broomball. They play it because it is a girls' sport. I think one girl plays hockey here in Waskaganish and I'll tell you, she's pretty good.

Why do a lot of kids hang around the arena? I think it's because there is a lot of space to run around. It is a good place to eat your Chester Fried Chicken and a good place to hang out when it is cold outside. To get some entertainment rather than television.

Why do people like to play sports? I think that they want to stay or get into shape and for exercise. Some people play to win and some play to have fun. Some people say winning isn't everything. I say those people never won anything.

Violence in hockey and in NHL hockey. In hockey and in the NHL people are always getting hurt from being bodychecked. Everytime you watch NHL on television somebody always gets hurt either by a fight or being bodychecked. Even kids bring bodychecking into the schools. They check you against the lockers or against the walls.

When there is a hockey tournament here or in some other community, a lot of communities come or go to wherever the tournament is. They are lots of fun because you see all these drunks walking around. I get to stay out late to watch the hockey and broomball games. I get to see some of my friends who are from out of town who I haven't seen in a long time.

GUESS WHAT'S COMING?

**Well, sure, Santa Claus,
but there's more:**

The Nation's 1996 Cree Calendar!

**Beautiful colour photos of Crees - maybe some one you know! -
involved in traditional activities. In your Kitchen, bedroom or
office, this calendar will brighten any room!**

**Look for the Calendar at the
following stores by Mid-December:**

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A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT LASTS ALL YEAR!



2nd Place
ENGLISH CATEGORY
Wayne Cheezo
Sec.2
Age ?

Untitled

The first time I went hunting I went with my father. He taught me how to look for wood. He taught me how to speak hard words in Cree. He told me that he was making a blind for us that I was going to hunt and that I was going to hunt tomorrow.

When I went to sleep I had a dream and my dream was about that I was in the woods and a while later a dog sled picked me up and the man grabbed me up and the man grabbed my legs and slapped me by the head. I did not move. And the man said what is your name and I said Wayne Cheezo. Then he smiled at me and he said, "You will make a good hunter." Then I woke up. I was the first one to wake up in our cabin and I said to my father, "Start the fire."

Then he woke up and prepared breakfast. When the sun was starting to shine we went off to hunt and my father gave me my .410 double barrel. My father started to put up the decoys. He told me to look for geese. At that time I did not know how to look for geese. I only looked in one spot. Then out of nowhere there were eight or seven geese that flew by our blind but no one shot them. Then my father's friends came and my father said, "I forgot something." Then my father went to get it and I sat in our blind with Darryl Whiskeychan. There were geese coming but they were way off our blind and one goose came and landed and I just shot it once and it fell down and we went back to our cabin and we surprised my father and my father drove me home and my mother plucked the goose and she cooked it and I was the one to eat the heart. It is a tradition that someone who kills his first goose gets to eat the heart.



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For orders contact Kmart Val d'Or
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at **819-825-6405**



Ville de Val d'Or

The mayor Ronald Tetrault and the Val d'Or Council members would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and the best for 1996.

The municipal authorities extend to you a warm welcome to Val d'Or, especially during the annual hockey and broomball tournament.

Welcome to all!

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Société de développement de la Baie James

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

M. Patrick Houle

The Société de Développement de la Baie James (SDBJ) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Patrick Houle as economic development agent.

Originally from Chicoutimi, in the Saguenay, Mr. Houle graduated from the University of Quebec in Chicoutimi in geological engineering. During the past ten years, he worked in the Chapais-Chibougamau region as a geological engineer, notably for the company Ressources MSV inc.

Highly involved in the community, he served as president for the Chibougamau tourist Commission from 1993 to 1995. His knowledge in the fields of mining and tourism makes for harmonious combination and a definite asset for the development of the Northern Quebec Region.

Mr. Houle will represent the SDBJ at both the local and regional levels. His goal will be to encourage regional entrepreneurship as well as initiating and supporting business projects, especially for aboriginal and allophone enterprises. We wish Mr. Houle great success with new duties.

Happy Holidays!

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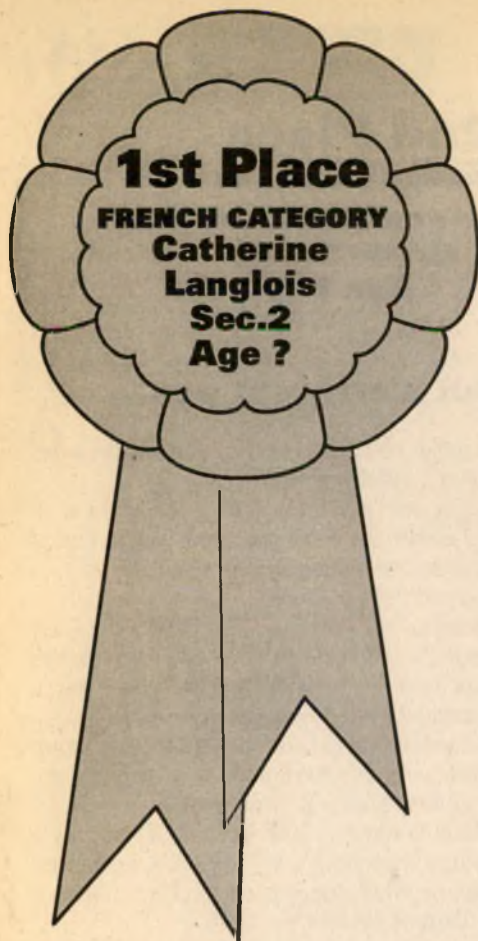


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Rafales sur la Baie

Nous étions quatre dans le petit cesna. Il y avait mon amie Mary. Mike, le guide de l'expédition, le pilote et moi-même, petite mais intelligente. Tout le monde m'appelait Susan. "Enfin nous sommes arrivés," s'écria Mary le nez étampé à la fenêtre. C'était un petit village d'une centaine de maisons proches de la baie. On pouvait y voir des enfants courir après les chiens et d'autres jouer au ballon-balai. C'était vrai! Nous étions enfin arrivés à Waskaganish, village cri sur les bords de la Baie James où notre aventure en motoneige devait débiter.

C'était un samedi de mars comme tous les autres samedis. Le soleil brillait donnant à la neige un rélet couleur argent. Le vent soufflait d'une brise légère. Nous étions fin près à partir chevauchant nos engins. Nous partions pour ce qui devait être tout une aventure. La traversée de la Baie James en douze heures.

Cela faisait à peine deux heures que nous étions partis que le vent commençait déjà à souffler très forte nous forçant à mettre des lunettes de ski. Mary, inquiète, me demanda: "Crois-tu que nous arriverons à Moosonee avant que la tempête se lève?—Bien sûr! lui répondis-je avec optimiste." J'avais à peine eu le temps de finir ma phrase qu'une neige abondante commençait à tomber créant ainsi ces rafales de neige. Jamais à Val d'Or nous n'avions vu une tempête aussi déchaînée. À cause des rafales, nous avions dû nous arrêter car il était évident que nous aurions été bloqués par la neige.

Soudain, Mike eut une idée et nous cria: "Il faut faire un abri de neige sinon nous ne passerons jamais la nuit avec le froid qui règne. On voyait dans ses yeux de la terreur à l'idée de devoir dormir dehors car nous ne serions pas à l'abri des loups. Mike nous donna les directives: "Susan, tu creuses un trou. Toi, Mary, tu montes les murs."—"Et toi, que feras-tu? lui demandai-je."—"J'essayerai de nous faire remarquer car il est prévu qu'ils nous enverraient un avion si nous n'étions pas de retour avant lundi soir. Bien sûr nous ne sommes que samedi mais on ne sait jamais."

Par la suite, on se mit au travail. Mary dut recommencer les murs plusieurs fois car, sous la pression du vent, ils cédaient. Après trois heures de travail acharné, nous étions enfin à l'abri du vent et de la neige. Il nous restait plus qu'à attendre après les secours, s'ils arrivaient à temps.

Nous étions sur le point de dormir quand soudainement un avion jailli de nulle part. À la course, nous sortîmes faisant de grands cercles avec nos bras au-dessus de nos têtes. L'avion nous avait vus et alla se poser quelques mètres plus loin. À notre grande surprise, ce n'était pas le secours attendu mais plutôt des journaliste américains désireux de faire un article sur le nord canadien. Mais combe de malheur, il n'y avait aucune place pour nous accueillir. Toutefois, ils nous promirent du secours et nous laissèrent de vivres et des couvertures de laine. Après réflexion, ils décidèrent de faire leur article sur nous et notre aventure. Nous fûmes assez flattés de leur idée. Mais il y avait plus important à faire. Même si tout allait bien, les secours n'arriveraient pas avant quatre bonnes heures. Ils partirent nous donnant rendez-vous à Moosonee pour notre interview.

Six heures plus tard, Mary, hystérique, Mike songeur, et moi sur les nerfs, attendions en vain les secours qui n'arrivaient toujours pas. Tout à coup, pour la deuxième fois, nous sortîmes à la hâte en agitant les bras au-dessus de nos têtes, certains que cette fois-ci serait la bonne. Comme de fait, c'était l'avion attendu, trois heures plus tard, nous étions au chaud, sirotant un chocolat chaud, en train de donner une entrevue à une revue américaine. Une semaine plus tard, Mary et moi, nous étions accueillies en héros à la maison. Quelle belle aventure!



Iris' mom and dad made their own tent. They stayed at our tent and they went to pick boughs. My mom went to help Iris' mother and when they were finished their tent they moved their things. They stayed in their tent and Sarah stayed with us. Emily was too tired from cleaning so Sarah slept with us. Sarah wasn't crying at all. In the morning she took Sarah home.

My dad, Iris' dad and Allen, Billy, Charlo and George went to the blind. I helped my mom and sisters pluck the geese. One night it was not so cold. My father and Isaac and Allan made a big fire in the teepee and I ate marshmallows. We had a radio and in the morning I went to the bush. There was a trail and Iris and Rachel and Leonda came. Leonda was scared. She almost cried and she went back to the tent. Then she said, "Wait for me," and she came with us.

The snow was deep and our pants were wet. So were our shoes. We reached the ice and saw geese flying. We hid in the tree but the geese wouldn't go to the blind because Rachel was talking. At the other blind my brother shot a goose and the goose was still alive so they killed the goose. They brought the goose and they plucked all the geese and they cooked all of the geese. They came home at night and they ate goose. We had a feast. There were some people living close to us. When the feast was over I went with my brother to the blind. The blind was in the water. My brother wore his hip-waders and he had to hold me above the water. In the night we went home.

The next day all of the men left early in the morning. I was still sleeping. When we got up Iris, Leonda, and I went into the Bush. We got into deep snow so we went home. When I got home I put on my other clothes and I wore my mom's shoes. They were so big. Then Rachel went home by a plane with her parents. We didn't have fun when she was gone because she was the only one who had toys. So we didn't have anything to play with except Leonda's doll. So we played with Sarah. I helped my mom pluck the geese. It was on Sunday.

I played on the ice. It was fun. Then my mom told me to get off the ice and I did. In the night we heard geese flying. We went on the ice and my father shot the geese. In the morning we played on the ice. We played hide-and-go-seek and tag. It was fun. Then my father and Iris' father and my brothers went hunting. My mother and sister and I plucked the geese. We plucked the geese in the bushes. In the afternoon my mother cooked geese for my dad and brothers.

My sister borrowed the ski-doo and I sat in the sled. Then we went back to the tent and saw geese. We just shot from the ski-doo. They shot four times and missed three times. After my mom and my sister went to the blind to get the rest of the geese. I went with my mom. My sister went to get the water. Iris stayed home. She was baby-sitting. Later we packed to go home. Isaac, Emily, Iris, Leonda, Walter, William, and my sisters and I went back to Mistissini. My mom and dad were the only ones in the Bush. I can't wait to go again.

Written by: Mary Swallow, Grade 4
Voyageur Memorial School

More on page 20



On behalf of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay, I would like to

extend my greetings to all Employees and Associates of the Cree Board of Health and to wish them all the best for the season and good health and prosperity in the coming year.

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday and may the New Year be filled with New Achievements and Hopes realized for Yourselves and Your families.

James Bobbish
Executive Director



Conseil Cré de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

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LES MINES INMET

The Troilus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company engaged in exploration, development and processing of base and precious metals internationally.

Inmet Mining Corporation is presently searching for candidates to fill four (4) positions for its future 10 000 tpd Mill. The Troilus Project is 175 km North of Chibougamau and is accessible by way of the Route du Nord. The employees will be scheduled to work on a 4-3 shift schedule and will be provided with room and board at its first-class camp on site.

Preferably, the successful candidates will have previous related experience in the mining of gold and copper ores as well as knowledge of SAG milling, CIL circuit and copper flotation. Training in these areas would be a definite asset.

THE POSITIONS TO BE FILLED ARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. GENERAL FOREMAN - MILL

The incumbent reports directly to the Mill Superintendent. The general foreman supervises and coordinates the activities of workers in the mill (Production and maintenance).

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A College diploma in mineral processing, metallurgical or in an appropriate related technical discipline is required;
- 5-10 years experience in supervision of gold milling and base metals;
- Fluency in French and English.

2. SENIOR METALLURGIST

The senior metallurgist reports directly to the mill superintendent. The incumbent's principal function will be the technical development of the mill and laboratory operations.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor's degree in mineral processing, metallurgical materials or chemical engineering or in an appropriate related engineering discipline is required;
- 3-5 years experience in mineral concentration as a metallurgist in a gold milling or base metal operation;
- Fluency in French and English is generally required.

3. METALLURGIST

The metallurgist reports to the mill superintendent. The incumbent provides mineral processing services for the efficient recovery of gold and copper from the ore.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor's degree in mineral processing, metallurgical materials or chemical engineering or in an appropriate related engineering discipline is required;
- 1-2 years experience in mineral concentration as a metallurgist;
- Fluency in French and English is generally required.

4. CHIEF ASSAYER

The incumbent reports directly to the mill superintendent. The chief assayer provides technical support to the metallurgists and mill operations.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor's degree in chemical engineering or an appropriate College diploma;
- The chief assayer must be certified;
- Five years as a supervisor in a lab environment;
- Environmental assaying experience is an asset especially in the field of spectrometry and fine assay;
- Fluency in French and English is generally required.

Inmet Mining Corporation offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package. These positions are open to both men and women.

Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and is committed to Cree employment. Interested candidates should submit their resume, at the latest January 15, 1996 to:

Projet Troilus

129, rue des Forces Armées

Chibougamau (Quebec)

G8P 3A1

Attention: Human Resources Manager

Reference: 1. General Foreman 2. Senior Metallurgist 3. Metallurgist 4. Chief Assayer

LES MINES **INMET**

The Troilus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company engaged in exploration, development and processing of base and precious metals internationally.

Inmet Mining Corporation is presently searching for candidates to fill four (4) positions for its future 10 000 tpd Mill. The Troilus Project is 175 km North of Chibougamau and is accessible by way of the Route du Nord. The employees will work on a 4-3 or 7/7 rotating shift schedule and will be provided with room and board at its first-class camp on site.

THE POSITIONS TO BE FILLED ARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. GEOLOGICAL TECHNICIAN

The Geological Technician provides geological and ore control services for the mine operation and mining engineering groups.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Geological technician usually requires completion of a two to three year college program in geological or related technology;
- 2-5 years experience in a surface mine operation is generally required.

2. MINE ENGINEER

The Mine Engineer plans and designs the development of the mine, mine facilities, systems and equipment.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor's degree in mining engineering or in an appropriate related engineering discipline is required;
- Registration as a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) by a provincial association of professional engineers is an asset;
- 2-5 years of experience is generally required in surface mining in an engineering or operations position;
- Fluency in French. Fluency in English is an asset.

3. INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN

The Industrial Electrician installs, maintains, tests, troubleshoots and repairs mine and mill electrical equipment and associated electrical and electronic controls.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- Trade certification is compulsory, and College diploma or equivalent;
- Experience on 25 KV current;
- Five years mining experience is preferred;
- Fluency in French
- Fluency in English is an asset.

4. TRAINING COORDINATOR

The Training Coordinator develops, coordinates and maintains training programs based on established priorities.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree or college diploma or demonstrated expertise in the field of training is required;
- Experience in the mining industry, preferably in an open pit and mill environment, with seven to ten years in training;
- Fluency in French and English is generally required.

Inmet Mining Corporation offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package. These positions are open to both men and women.

Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and is committed to Cree employment. Interested candidates should submit their resume, at the latest January 15, 1996 to:

*Projet Troilus
129, rue des Forces Armées
Chibougamau (Quebec)
G8P 3A1*

Attention: Human Resources Manager

Reference: 1. Geol. Technician 2. Mine Engineer 3. Indust. Electrician 4. Training Coordinator

Bush Story

During the goose break I usually go to the Bush for one week. Last year I went with my parents. We killed 217 geese. We lived with my friend, Mary, and her parents. Mary's father and my father made a teepee and we had a marshmallow roast. We had fun over the weekend. On Saturday Mary and I went with our fathers goose hunting. Mary's father killed four geese and my father killed three geese. In total we had 217 geese and we ate some of the geese. My sister Leonda played with her friend Rachel. They played Barbies and they had fun. My mom was cooking geese. Mary's mom was cooking geese too.

We went by a helicopter. It was fun on the helicopter. My little sister Sarah was looking out the window. She laughed all the way home. When we landed Sarah was almost crying. I can't wait to go again.

Written by: Iris Voyageur, Grade 4
Voyageur Memorial School

The Monster

Once there was a boy named Patrick. He was a brave boy. One day when he was finished his supper he went into the woods to get some wood. He saw a U.F.O. He went to see what was in the U. F.O. He saw a monster coming at him. The monster said, "What's your name?" Patrick was too scared to say his name. Then Jewyll, Jeremy, Noah and I saw the monster eating Patrick. Jeremy ran home and didn't come back. The police came and shot the monster. The monster died. Jewyll, Jeremy, Noah, Patrick and I were in the hospital. The police took the monster and threw him in the dump. The police were happy that the monster was dead. Later the U.F.O. came back to pick up the monster but he was dead.

Written by: Johnny Brien, Grade 4
Voyageur Memorial School

Turn to page 23 for more



FIRST NATIONS OF QUEBEC
AND LABRADOR
HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES COMMISSION

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DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DES
PREMIÈRES NATIONS DU
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*A Merry Christmas
and
a Happy New Year
to all of The Nation's readers!*

Coming On CBC TV Maamuitaau

January 13 and 14

1995 was a busy and meaningful year for Cree residents living in Quebec. **Maamuitaau** reflects back on the previous year highlighting the events and the impact of the Cree referendum, the Quebec Referendum and other important events. On **Maamuitaau Chis'chaayihitamoon** get ready for a musical treat with toe-tapping fiddle music and square dancing from different Cree communities.

January 20 and 21

Jane Alice Matoush is from Mistissini, but lives in Val D'Or for medical reasons. She requires tri-weekly dialysis treatment because her kidneys are not functioning. **Maamuitaau** talks with Jane and her family about her dilemma until a donor is found. On **Maamuitaau Chis'chaayihitamoon** we'll take you to the Montreal Native Cultural Festival for throat singing, Hawaiian dancing and discover the significance of the medicine wheel.

Watch Maamuitaau:

Saturdays	06:28	SRC
Sundays	07:00	CBMT
	18:00	SRC
(subject to change)		

CBC  **North**

Happy New Year



From all of us at
the Nation

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A Christmas Gift? **Prime Minister Chrétien's Unity Package**

The Canadian government recently adopted a unity package, Bill C-110, which gives a constitutional veto to certain provinces and regions, and contains a resolution recognizing Quebec as a distinct society.

The Grand Council of the Crees supports accommodation of the aspirations of Quebecers, but not at the expense of the Crees and other Aboriginal peoples, or in a manner that is fundamentally against the interests of all Canadians.

Three aspects of the unity package will have grave consequences for the Cree People:

1. The constitutional veto being given to certain provinces and regions. The Grand Council proposed an amendment to Bill C-110 that would have assured the veto does not infringe on Aboriginal rights or the territorial integrity of Canada. Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come wrote to every Member of Parliament as well as Senators expressing concern that Bill C-110 as it stands could be unconstitutional.

The government rejected the amendment saying it doesn't want its hands tied by the amendment. Individual Canadians and Native peoples will be paying the price for this Bill.

2. Recognition of Quebec as a distinct society fails in that it is unbalanced. Who is being recognized as distinct? Is it merely the French-speaking majority? What of the other peoples who have been in this land for thousands of years? In saying that the people of Quebec want this recognition, it makes no provision for Native peoples, something the Charlottetown and Meech Lake accords would have recognized. Even the separatist government of René Lévesque formally recognized Aboriginal peoples as "nations."

Canada has forcibly included the Eeyou, as we have not consented to it. It is another case of denying the fiduciary responsibility on the part of the Canadian government.

3. Responsibility of manpower training may be transferred to the provinces. This action would seriously jeopardize current programs in place to help Crees become part of the economic life of Canada. It will be yet another ace in the hands of Quebec when they negotiate with us. They would be able to freeze needed adult training funds as a way of punishing Aboriginal Peoples who do not want a part of the current government's separatist agenda.

It is clear that the Canadian government initiatives run counter to the interests of the Cree People, Aboriginal Peoples and Canadians as a whole. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien stated after the Quebec referendum that all people in Canada have the "right to political stability." At this time, the Grand Council of the Crees intends to pursue all avenues to ensure that the Prime Minister is true to his words.



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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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The Bravest Dog on Earth

Once upon a time there was a dog named Borka. He was a good dog. He was a brave dog. Borka was a street dog. One day he went to the market. He went to the toy store to see the nice and good toys. There was a nice girl named Cindy. He saw the name on the coat. He loved that name.

After he ran home Borka saw his friends. Their names were Bull, Coey, and Mac. Mac was a cat and Bull was a bulldog. Fatso was a St. Bernard and Coey was a big dog. Borka told about the girl named Cindy. Fatso said, "We can bring her here?" Cindy was a poor girl. She had rags for clothes. After Borka went to get Cindy. Borka took her hat. The girl wanted to catch him but she saw a lot more dogs. Bull was barking at her.

The dog stopped at the dead end. Cindy was very mad at Borka. She was going to hit Borka but she stopped and had a sad face.

Cindy said, "Give me my hat". Borka gave Cindy's hat back. Borka took her to their home. Bull did not bark at her.

A man walked by. The man stopped and looked at her in her eyes. The man took Cindy and her friends. The man had a wife. Cindy lived with them. Mac loved her new bed. Fatso and Coey and Bull and Borka stayed outside but Cindy played with them lots of times. Borka loved his new home.

After time passed Cindy went to school. Borka came with her. Borka was very old and weak. Sam was a bad boy who kicked Borka. Borka ran so fast. "Bump." Cindy looked at Borka. Borka was gone forever. All his friends cried all day.

One day Mac had a new baby. He named it Borka

Written by: Theresa MacLeod, Grade 4
Voyageur Memorial School

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Téléphone: (514) 874-9011
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Gracie Sarah Meeskumgookkow Bearskin, born August 22, 1975, died in October 1995. Gracie died in a tragic fire accident in Eastmain, Quebec.

This passage was written by Nellie M. Bearskin-House. The words were told to her by her aunt and uncle. The passage was read in English by Irene House in Cree by Abraham Bearskin at Gracie's funeral service in Chisasibi, Quebec.

Dedicated with love to my uncle Stewart Bearskin, my aunt Jane Cheechoo-Bearskin and most of all to Gracie's little girl, Sarah-Jane Bearskin, 3 years old.

"At this special time of the year, Christmas, Our God, Our Creator has not forsaken us. He shows us his Great Love for us."

With all my love, Nellie and family.



To my daughter Gracie - from your father

You lived with us for such a short time.

You were always very respectful to me and your mother. You always listened to your mother. When you were told things to do, you never talked back to us.

You used to play hymns, always listen to hymns and other songs you loved to listen to. Many times you used to fall asleep listening to songs you loved. I would go and check on you sleeping, music on and I would turn it off, your music.

You asked me once this past summer, "Dad, let's go Inland," but I had things in the way.

You were always happy out on the land, the activities you loved so much.

Once this summer you came and lay beside your mother on the bed. Like a little girl you became that special moment. You asked me and your mother, "Let's look for another place to call home."

You were probably aware that you had such a short time on this earth.

I never yelled at you—I will remember your laughter, your strong sense of humour. Even when I would get angry at you, your strength was your humour.

We loved you with all our hearts. Many times, taking food to your uncles, you had a great fondness for your uncles and aunts. Gracie, you had such a kind, caring, loving heart.

For you my daughter, Gracie Sarah Meeskumgookkow - Love, your mother

You were always there for your sisters, to help them with their children.

I remember when you had your 20th birthday on August 22, I found it very strange when you told me, "Mom, do you know this is my last birthday. I will always be this age. This will be my true age."

My precious daughter, you have left us, but you leave behind a little girl that is a part of you. Through your little girl, I see you in

her.

She is our greatest strength in this time. Through her, my heart is not too heavy. When she is around beside me, my tears do not fall so much.

Many times, you used to tell me, "I will give you my child. She will be your child. She will be my little sister."

I promise my sweet, sweet daughter, I will love, care, raise your daughter with the help of your brothers and sisters.

And for your death we will blame no one.

Quebec receives 31% of federal transfer payments.

FIGURES DON'T LIE!

QUEBEC'S VERSION:

The Government of Quebec blames Ottawa for its current economic situation.

QUEBEC'S VERSION:

The Government of Quebec asserts that the Federal Government is trying to get rid of its deficit at the expense of the province.

THE FACTS:

While other Canadian provinces have been developing ways to bring spending under control, Quebec's leaders have been preoccupied with their own political agenda.

THE FACTS:

Equalization payments to Quebec will rise by almost \$200 million next year.

QUEBEC'S VERSION:

The Government of Quebec contends that reduced federal transfer payments to Quebec are a post-referendum surprise.

QUEBEC'S VERSION:

The Government of Quebec claims that the proposed transfer payments are unfair to Quebec.

QUEBEC'S VERSION:

The Government of Quebec suggests that it is the only province being affected by cost-cutting measures.

THE FACTS:

Reductions in federal transfer payments to the provinces weren't a surprise to anyone. They were discussed with all of the provinces starting at the end of 1994; they were announced to Canadians in February 1995 when the federal budget was brought in, and they will not come into effect until April 1, 1996.

THE FACTS:

Quebec, which has 25% of the Canadian population, will receive 31% of federal transfers in 1996-1997, the same share that it has received for the last six years. This sum of \$11.1 billion represents nearly a third of Quebec's revenue.

THE FACTS:

The Federal Government, and each of the provinces, must commit to tough measures to get their finances in order and revive the economy. All of the provinces, including Quebec, must deal with the same reductions. In fact, industrialized nations around the world are facing the same challenge. And it's only by working together that we can ensure all Canadians a better future.

QUEBEC HAS ALWAYS RECEIVED ITS FAIR SHARE OF FEDERAL TRANSFER PAYMENTS.

MAIN FEDERAL TRANSFERS TO QUEBEC (In Millions of \$)			
	1993-1994	1994-1995	1995-1996
Established programs financing*	5,307	5,348	5,390
Canada Assistance Plan	2,652	2,750	2,750
Equalization	3,630	3,670	3,857
Main transfers total*	11,266	11,446	11,667

*Equalization associated with EPF tax points appears in both Equalization and EPF entitlements. It has been subtracted from "Total major transfer entitlements" to avoid double counting.

FACTS ARE FACTS!



Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

100-BIRTHS

101-BIRTHDAYS

I just thought "The nation" should know that Patterson Larry Hester (Sr.) will be celebrating his birthday on Dec. 11 cause he deserves it and he's a very special person. "Happy Birthday". From one of his nephews, "Joe", in Waskaganish.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our sister Karen Blacksmith on December 5, 95 and to our brother Laurence Blacksmith on December 18, 95. Hope you guys had fun. From your sisters Caroline, Sarah, and Joni and fr. Neebin.

FREE!

CLASSIFIED SPECIALS

Greetings going out to our sweet and adorable grandson Jonathan Pash, who will be celebrating his first Christmas and also his first birthday on December 31st. And we want to wish him a happy New Year. Lots of hugs and kisses. We love you with all our hearts. Grandma and Grandpa Pash.

Minister of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development



Ministre des Affaires
indiennes et du Nord canadien



Meilleurs voeux du ministre Ronald A. Irwin

La période des fêtes est à nos portes et j'aimerais à cette l'occasion, offrir à tous mes meilleurs voeux. Je crois que cette époque de l'année est spéciale puisqu'elle donne à chacun la possibilité de faire une pause, de jeter un regard sur l'année qui s'achève et d'anticiper celle à venir.

Alors que 1996 approche à grands pas, je prévois une année emballante et remplie de succès. La formation continue d'un partenariat entre les peuples autochtones et les gouvernements fédéral, provinciaux et territoriaux nous assurera des réussites futures, à l'image de celles que nous avons obtenues cette année.

On peut citer plusieurs exemples de ce que nous avons déjà accompli ensemble. Par exemple, comme les négociations sur la mise en oeuvre du droit inhérent à l'autonomie gouvernementale se poursuivent, les peuples autochtones de partout au Canada pourront exercer un meilleur contrôle sur leurs propres collectivités et y assumer plus de responsabilités.

L'une de nos plus grandes réussites est le démantèlement du bureau manitobain du ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien. Ce démantèlement implique que les Premières nations du Manitoba reprennent le contrôle de tous les aspects de leur vie. Afin d'être initiés aux rouages du fonctionnement du gouvernement fédéral, 10 représentants des Premières nations manitobaines travaillent présentement, et dans pour une période de deux ans, dans divers ministères fédéraux.

Grâce à des projets-pilotes innovateurs, des Autochtones de plusieurs collectivités emploient de la main-d'oeuvre locale et utilisent des matériaux locaux pour la construction de leurs maisons. Dans le domaine de l'éducation, les Premières nations exercent un contrôle direct sur plus de 90 p. 100 des programmes d'éducation, post-secondaire et le nombre d'étudiants autochtones qui poursuivent des études collégiales ou universitaires est passé de 800 en 1969 à 26 800 en 1994-1995.

En établissant une relation de confiance et une liberté de dialogue à la table des négociations, les peuples autochtones et les gouvernements ont réglé 45 revendications particulières et 5 revendications globales au cours des 2 dernières années. En nous appuyant sur cet esprit de partenariat, nous bâtissons ensemble un avenir qui est bénéfique pour tous.

C'est un honneur pour moi d'avoir rencontré de nombreux Autochtones et d'avoir visité plusieurs collectivités autochtones pendant la dernière année. Je vous souhaite, à tous, de passer une joyeuse période des fêtes, en toute sécurité, entourés de votre famille et de vos amis. Je suis impatient de travailler avec vous au cours de la prochaine année.

Minister of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development



Ministre des Affaires
Indiennes et du Nord canadien



Season's Greetings from Minister Ron A. Irwin

With the holiday season just around the corner, I would like to wish you all season's greetings. I consider this a very special time of year as it gives everyone the opportunity to pause and reflect on the past year and look forward to the coming year.

As we head into 1996, I anticipate a very exciting and successful year. The continuing development of a partnership between Aboriginal peoples and the federal, provincial and territorial governments will ensure future successes like the ones we have achieved this year.

There are many examples of what we have already accomplished together. For instance, as negotiations continue on implementing the inherent right of self-government, Aboriginal peoples across Canada will exercise greater control and responsibility over their own communities.

Among some of our key successes is the dismantling of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's regional offices in Manitoba. This means that Manitoba First Nations are regaining control over all facets of their lives. To gain insight into how the federal government works, 10 First Nations representatives from Manitoba are now working in various federal departments for two years.

Through innovative pilot projects, Aboriginal peoples in several communities are building their own homes using local labour and resources. In the area of education, First Nations directly control over 90 percent of the post-secondary education program and the number of Aboriginal students attending universities or colleges has increased from 800 in 1969 to 26,800 in 1994-95.

In building trust and open dialogue at the negotiating table, Aboriginal peoples and governments have settled 45 specific and five comprehensive land claims over the past two years. By nurturing the spirit of partnership, we are working together to build a future that is to the benefit of all.

The holidays can also be a very difficult time, especially for those who have lost loved ones during the year, or face deep problems such as poverty, unemployment or homelessness. I believe we must redouble our efforts together to build a better, more prosperous country for all.

It has been an honour to meet so many Aboriginal communities and individuals over the past year. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season with your families and friends and I look forward to working with you in the new year.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Happy 17th birthday (Dec. 18) to our daughter Joanne. Hope you get lots of Christmas and birthday gifts. Be good and stay in school. Love you, Mom and Dad.

sayin' From JL xoxoxo.

Happy 17th birthday to my sister Joanne Pash on December 18. Hope you have lots of fun. Remember last year it went by so fast. Also merry Christmas and happy New Year. From Georgina, Stanley and boys.

Happy 74th birthday to my little grandma Daisy Pash on December 27 and many more birthdays to come. We love you very much and merry Christmas. From Georgina, Stanley, Justin and Adrian (Chisasibi).

Happy 2nd birthday to Angie daisy on December 27. Love always, Justin and Adrian (Chisasibi).

Happy 13th birthday to Claudette Sealhunter. Don't party too much. From Justin and Adrian.

Happy birthday to my special Grandma daisy Pash. She will be celebrating her 74th birthday on December 27th, 1995. Always remember that you are in our hearts and we love you very much. Margaret and Jonathan.

We would like to wish a merry Christmas, Happy first birthday and have a happy New Year to Jonathan Pash on December 31, 1995. Love ya! Georgina, Stanley, Justin and Adrian.

Happy birthday to my special aunt Molly Rupert on December 2, 1995. Thank you for the advice you gave us and all the help you have given us. You are very special to us. Georgina, Stanley and boys.

Birthday wishes going out to these special and caring people. Jonathan and Bella on Dec. 4, Peter on Dec. 6, Shirley on Dec. 9, Davey on Dec. 23 and also Frank on Dec. 29. Happy birthday and may God bless you all. With love, Ottereyes family. xoxoxo. P.S. Merry X-mas

I want to wish happy birthday to mommys (Bella) on Dec. 4, 95. Love always, Amanda Ottereyes. P.S. I love you.

I want to wish a happy birthday to my sister Christina Sag on November 15 and my mother on November 17. Have a wonderful birthday. I love you both with all my heart. From your sister and daughter Suzanne Saganash.

Happy birthday to these two special friends of mine, Karen Ratt, on 16(Chis), Karen Iserhoff on December 17. I hope your day will be as special as you both will always be. Truly yours in friendship. Cynthia B. take care, miss you!

I wanna say happy b-day to Annie M.B. on December 14. AY you came this far and still have your life ahead of you so, hold on you're worth it and don't forget that you're special. Love ya! Ya know watt I'm

A very big b-day wish going out to my very good friend, Sonia B., in Ouje. on Dec. 19 who will be turning 16. Happy birthday. friend always and forever. Nellie Wapachee in Ouje-Bougoumou.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my brother Jeremy on December 6, to my dad on December 10 and to my sweet, very little nephew Chiiwetin Wap on December 18. I love you so much. From Nellie Wapachee in Ojaj.

Just for you Brant; happy 13th birthday on December 9. Violets are blue, roses are red, Sugar is sweet, and so are you! With love, from 48 Harricanaw in Waskaganish.

We would like to wish a happy belated 2nd birthday to our special, adorable, loving and handsome son, Maverick Loon Swallow, on December 8. We will never forget that day you brought joy and pride into our lives. We will always love U. From Mom, Dad and Kaylee.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my mommy Flora in North bay on December 4. I really miss you guys a lot, especially Dali boy (Dallas) Love always, Joshua Blacksmith. XXX

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our daddy (Gordon) on December 10, 95. Love always, Ryan and Baby Ian Saganash.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to Arita on December 21 and also Keran on December 17. Have fun girls on your birthdays. Love and prayers, sister Diana in Waswanipi. God bless you.

Happy birthday to Joy Dawn Meskino (Dish Soap) who turned 16 on December 1, 95. We hope you had a great day. From Violet, April and Annie (Nemaska).

Happy 3rd birthday to our daughter, Jennica kalene. you've been a blessing from the start on December 1st, 1992. We love you with all our hearts. From mom and dad, your little brother Daylon. (Mistissini)

I want to wish a happy birthday to my uncle Isaac E. on Dec. 12. I love you and miss you. God bless you. Love, Melanie.

On December 24th, we would like to wish a happy birthday to our son, Tyler George Joseph. We love you so much. You're the best gift we received that Christmas. From Mommy and Daddy (Janie and George) and your sister Melinda.

Birthday wishes going out to our niece Denise on December 4, 95 and also to her brother Big red on the 17th. We love you. From all of us at 46 Harricanaw (Wask, Que.)

Happy birthday to my granddaughters kristen (Dec. 5) and Sarah (Dec. 12). I wish you both the best and may the good Lord bless you. Lots of love from Kokum Isehoff.

CLASSIFIEDS

xoxoxo

Happy birthday to Christopher Ratt on Dec. 25 and to James Gilpin on Dec. 29. We wish you both all the best in the new Year "96". Happy birthday to both of you and merry Christmas. With love, Karen and Tommy-Lee.

Happy birthday to my dearest friend Caroline J. Shecapio in Mist on Dec. 25. May your dreams and hopes come true. Merry Christmas and a happy new Year. I miss you. See you soon. Friend always, Karen.

Birthday wishes! going out to our daughter Celina and our baby boy Normansh. Their birthday will be on Dec. 2, 95. Happy birthday and many more to come. With love, from Mom and dad and bro. Eric Bearskin. Chis.

We want to send birthday wishes to Justin Mamianskum in Whapmagoostui. His birthday is on Dec. 2, 95. We love you and miss you. From Christine, Clarence and kids. especially your buddy Normansh. Chis.

We want to send birthday wishes to Marlene Bearskin. Her B-day is on December 2, 1995. From Celina and Normansh Bearskin.

I would like to say happy 2nd birthday to my loving big bro Maverick on December 8, 1995. Hope your day will be as special

as you are. Mom, Dad and myself of course miss you when you're in the bush. Don't give grandma and grandpa a had time. Hope you'll be with us on your day. LUV U so much and always will. With all my love that's in my little heart. Your crying little sister, Kaylee Swallow.

A birthday wish going out to someone special, our daughter Hattie Mamianskum on Dec. 11, 95. We love you very much. We will always be there for you when you need us. God bless you with all our love, Mom and dad, Abel and Demerise.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my wife Yvonne Mamianskum on January one. Please "honey", no more C.O.D.'s (Whapmagoostui).

We would like to wish a happy birthday to two of our friends, Joseph Mianscum and Leslie Shecapio on December 29, 95. P.S. boy, don't party too much! Fr. Andrew Coon and Richard Shecapio in Hull.

We wish our Dad George M. Shecapio a happy birthday on Dec. 28. Hope you have a wonderful birthday. We know sometimes we can be a pain and give you a hard time. You stuck with us during bad times and helped us out. You are the greatest. We love you. With all our love, your seven sons.

Happy 1st birthday to our son Leonard Clayton Visitor on Dec. 2, 95. You are

special. You're the only one. There isn't anyone in this whole wide world who can do the things you do. We love you very much. Hugs and kisses. Love, Mom, Dad, your brother Dwayne and your sisters Jenna and Courtney.

Happy 7th birthday to our son Dwayne Visitor on Dec. 23, 95. We love you very much. Hugs and kisses. Remember that Santa is coming to town. You better watch out you better not pout. Love, Mom, dad, your brother Leonard and your sisters Jenna and Courtney.

I wanna wish a happy 13th birthday to Pierrette Keena Salt on Dec. 10th. May this day be a special one for you. And many more to come. From your namesake.

Happy birthday to grandma Gertie Jonah on Dec. 16. Grandma you are special to us, we thank you for everything you have done for us. We miss you. With lots of love and kisses. From James and Taralyn.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my favorite cousin Krista Vanessa Sue Blackened who will be turning 5 yrs old on December 19. Have fun and enjoy your special day and I love you. From your little cousin Taralyn.

who got married on Nov. 18, 1995. Now you can call me your niece!! With lots of love, Jean Meskino.

Congratulations to Anthony and Johanne who got married on November 18, 1995. May you have a happy life together. Love, Steven, Emily and family.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 3rd wedding anniversary to uncle/brother Floyd and his wife aunt/sister-in-law Patricia on November 20. "What God has joined together let no man separate" Love ya both. From Anita and Calvin (Wask)

Happy 20th anniversary to my parents Sally and Joseph on December 5. I just wanted to say how grateful I am to have you as my parents. I love you both so much from the bottom of my heart. And even the good and the bad times. I thank God for such wonderful, loving, caring parents. So Dad take a break and go somewhere with Mom and spend the weekend together. That's all I wanted to say. P.S. The last thing. Have fun on your anniversary and I love you both, lots. From a daughter who loves you guys a lot. Rachael Blacksmith.

I want to wish a happy 20th anniversary to my loving and caring parents, Francois and Sophie, on December 12, 1995 and

102-WEDDINGS

I'd like to congratulate my uncle and new aunt Anthony Neepposh and Johanne Caron

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CLASSIFIEDS

many more years to come. Love, Melanie Maggie Gunner.

300-PERSONALS

Congratulations to Jennifer and Rodney on their upcoming marriage. From Bella and Henry Mianscum and all the relatives.

We the employees of CPC of Wemindji would like to wish all the CPC employees of the Northern Services Division a very merry Christmas and all the best in 96... And also to all the *Nation* employees for their hard work.

We would like to wish a merry Christmas and a happy New year to our friends in Nemaska, EN Jr., RJ, MJ, CC, CB, DW, RT, TT, NB, and MM in Mist. CS, NP, NIO, KI, KL, DM, AV, MG, CJ, SJM, MJSM, HR, in Wasw. MD in Wask. MJM, UM, MM, EM, SW, YS, SWD, ES, MSD, LJ, SE, DO, in Chis., SP, MH, PH, AH, SJR, SR, JB, IR, VB, SL, RB, we wish you all the best in the new year "96" From KR and CT.

We want to wish Agnes Cheezo in Nemaska a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Take care. From Shelley & Darwin Gilpin (Eastmain).

I would like to wish a merry Christmas to all my uncles and my aunts in Kashechewan, Ont. to my uncle George in Chisasibi, my aunts Margaret and Marion in Eastmain. I wish you all the happiness and joy this coming New Year. From your niece, Janie (Wask, Que.)

We want to wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to my family and friends in Eastmain. from Shelley an Darwin.

I want to wish my son Darwin Gilpin (Frosty the Snowman) a very merry Christmas a happy New Year. Hope Santa brings your favorite toy you really want. I love you. With lots of hugs and kisses. from Mom Shelley.

To Bernada Hester, Naomi Weistche, Christa Murdoch, Kari Blackened. We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Fr. the bus driver and monitor. B.H & B.B.

Merry Christmas and a happy new Year to Stephane Ratt and Curtis Ratt in Chisasibi. We love you with lots of hugs and kisses. From Grandpa George, Grandma Margaret and family. P.S. We miss you a lot.

We want to wish our friends a very warm merry Christmas and a happy New Year to: Maryanne Meskino, Richard, Betsy and Vanessa, Clarence and Christine Bearskin and family, George and Marie Louise Pachanos and family, Maurice and Beulah Sam and Family of Chisasibi, Walter and Louise Bosum and family, Roger and Betsy Lacroix and family of Ouje-Bougoumou, Reggie and Sophia Wapachee and family of Nemaska, Albert and Cheryl Trapper and family, Peter and Dorothy Longchap

and family of Waswanipi and to our parents, Bertie and Maryanne, Isaac and Dinah. With love and friendship, Kitty, George, Jennica and Daylon Longchap.

We would like to wish a merry Christmas to Joseph and Minnie Sealhunter, Isaac and Alice Sealhunter, Tommy Sealhunter and also to all our cousin and relatives. Hope all your wishes come true. we are all thinking of you and wishing you a happy New Year. from M. Sealhunter and family (Rouyn, Que.)

Merry Christmas to Bernice and Danny kitchen (Wask.) All the best for the coming New Year... From M. Sealhunter (Rouyn, Que.)

Wishing a Merry Christmas to all my children, Bobby, Daniel, William and jimmy (Chis). I love you and I'm thinking of you and I pray that the coming New Year will be a better year for all of us. All my love and kisses to you, your wives and your children. from your Mother, N. Sealhunter (Rouyn, Que.)

To A.S. in Waskaganish. Wishing you a merry Christmas. Remember Christmas is a time for family togetherness and I know you have to celebrate this Christmas with yours like I have to celebrate this season with mine... Wishing you the best for the coming New Year... Love always, from a friend (Chis).

I want to wish a merry Christmas to Kerwin Gilpin (A.A.) and happy 1st Christmas to Elaine Moses (Elaine-Go). Can't wait to hang our stockings on Christmas Eve. I love you. from Darwin Gilpin to Krista Mayappo.

We want to wish a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all our relatives in Wemindji, Moose Factory, Waskaganish, Chisasibi, Ottawa and Eastmain. from George and Margaret Gilpin and family. (Eastmain).

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to Sophia Gilpin in Eastmain. From your grandchildren, great grandchildren. House 89 Shabow Meskino.

Wishing a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to the Tomatuk family in Eastmain. Wishing you all the best and may God bless you all. Have a wonderful and safe holiday. With love, Ruby Wischee and Family.

Wishing a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to my friends in Nemaska. Willie, Annie Iserhoff and family, Kenny, Madeline Jolly and Family. William, Harriet Wapachee and family. May you have a blessed and joyous Christmas. From your friend always, Ruby Wischee (Wask).

I would like to say hi to the boy of my dreams, Arnold Neeposh, in Waswanipi. I just wanted you to know how much I love you and how much I care about you. I can't stop thinking about you. From your secret

admirer.

I would like to say hi to my boyfriend in Chisasibi, Eric Snowboy. I want to see you in Waswanipi. I'm thinking about you. From your secret admirer Cynthia Cooper. I love you. I wish I could kiss you someday. Love you.

I would like to say to our friend Erica Happyjack from Waswanipi. We'll have fun in Waswanipi. Good luck from your friends, Priscilla, Kristen, Amy, Cheryl, Charlotte. P.S. wrigh to us. Love ya sikel

We would like to say merry Christmas to our friend Marilyn G. who lives in Moose factory. We hope you have the best Christmas of the year. Your friend, Jordan Iserhoff, Hayley Gull. We miss you, we love you. M.

I would like to say hi to my friend Roberta Pachano in Mist. Hope to see you at Christmas time in Chisasibi. Take care. friends forever. From April N. (Nem) P.S. give a hug and a kiss for Christina.

I just wanna take this time to say hi to Achou (Chis). It would take an eternity to describe my feelings 4 U. Never forget I'm happy of what we are. You're the 1 4 me. I miss you! Love, me Stupid. I love you with all my heart.

A.M. I'd like to say how much I miss everything about you. Wish we can be together real soon. Can't stop thinkin' about you... From Uh. P.S. I love U. Don't ever forget that no matter what!!!

To Caroline M. (Chis) We're really sorry U couldn't go to the Val d'Or tournament. U really wanted to go because U really wanted to see R. very badly. From girls U know.

We would like to say hi to the two cutest guys in Nemaska, Calvin and Jason Hester. You guys are sooo hot!!! We wish we could go out with U. From your secret admirers in Chisasibi.

I would like to say hi to Pauline Neeposh. Don't party too much. From your friend, hope you remember me (Chis).

Charlie Coonishish, I love you with all my heart. I miss you very much. You're handsome everyday. You're the one I needed for so long in my life. I want to marry you anywhere, anytime. From your secret admirer in Mistissini.

Good luck to Waswanipi Midget Broomball Stars and Waswanipi Juvenile Broomball for the upcoming tournaments. From Waswanipi fans. And good luck to all Waswanipi minor players.

I would like to say hi to my sister Maggie and Yvette Coonishish from Whap. I miss you both so much. Yvette, please come home for Christmas. I'm looking forward to seeing you. Love always, Christine and everyone at Etuah St. xoxoxox.

I'd like to congratulate my friend Dorothy T. for the courage and strength she had when she wanted to give up drinking. It's been ten months now, keep up the good work. I'm so proud of you. May the good Lord guide and keep you safe. From a friend.

We just wanted to say hi to a few people in North Bay. Charlene, Delores and Ginette. We hope to see you girls during the holidays. Take care don't party too much. From your friends back home (Mist).

Merry Christmas to all my girlfriends, especially Margaret. From Boysh in Wemindji.

Hi! JP from Waswanipi. I love you with all my heart and soul. I miss you and care for you in every way. You're handsome everyday and every way. You're the one I needed for so so long in my life. Guess who (Mist)

To the cutest boy I've ever seen in Chisasibi. His name is Bradley Sam. Hi Bradley, I'm your secret admirer. I find you very cute. I talk about you many times. I might come to Chisasibi sometime but I'm not going to tell my name because I'm your secret admirer. Many times I think and dream of you. I saw many cute boys before but you are the cutest of all! Well see yah! in Chisasibi sometime! Love and kisses always from your secret admirer.

I would like to say hi to a special friend of mine from Waswanipi. To Rosetta Icebound. I haven't received your letter yet! Anyway! I hope you write 2 me. Friend always, Cynthia (Nem) Keep in touch and take care of yourself.

I would like to say hi to my friends in Chisasibi. The names are Gracie Herodier and Paula Menarick and Sarah Spencer and Emma house. I miss you all. See you all soon when I come there again sometime then we could hang out. I miss you a lot and Chisasibi too! well, bye! From your friend always, Katrina Orr (Nemaska) P.S. You all should come visit sometime. Can't wait to see you!

I would like to say hi to two very good friends of mine, Cynthia and Tammy. Hope you're doing fine. From friend always, Nannette I. Ottereyes. I'll be sending you letters. P.S. Take very good care.

We would like to say hello to Thomas Mark who's in Mistissini, Que. We miss you, we love you. See you soon, hopefully. With love, Mom and Dad, brothers, sisters and your adorable boodoo niece. (Wemindji)

We just wanted to say hi to the most cutest boys in Chisasibi. Keith and Isaac. We miss you guys a lot. Hope to see you guys again. From your secret admirers. Probably you'll remember us!! Bye!

We just wanted to say hi to the cutest guy in Waskaganish, Daryll Hester. You have the most beautiful eyes!! We wish we could go out with you at the same time! We're crazy about you!! Mist girls!

CLASSIFIEDS

Kym S. I have lost your phone number and address! Call me! You probably know the number. Come to Wemindji for New Year's! Okay?! Gerri.

This is for Macarena, (he knows who he is). The trip was wonderful and we had a lot of fun! We will always remember it! From the Macarena Club. We will send you that on your birthday in about 5 months.

Phillip Mett where in the world are you? Call collect. From your friend, Cathy K.

We would like to say hi to our truthfully and caring friend in Waskaganish, Pierrette Salt. We would like to hear from you, girl!! Hope to see you soon anytime, anywhere anyplace. From friends always in Chisasibi. Guess who? P.S. We miss you a lot, girl!!!

Hello there Allen Matoush in Val d'Or. So, how's life so far. You better quit that drinking before you overdo it. (know what I'm saying?) Anyways, just wanted to say hello. From your friend Anita in Waskaganish. Take care, Bud!!!

Hello!! Joomshoom, Badjou, Lan, Avene and Macko at 103 Popular St. in Waswanipi. Miss you all. "Sakeyda Naw" all the way from kilometre 188 on the James Bay Highway. Calvin Sakey H/jack. Luv ya all. xoxoxo.

To A.S. in Waskaganish. I just want to know

when you are going to ask me that special question? I've been waiting for you to ask me since I was twelve (just kidding) Anyways, I hope you know just how much I do care for you and I miss you very much. Love always, your secret admirer (Chis).

Looking for Cheryl-Ann Ottereyes. Where are you? It's been a long time. I need to talk to you, you were a good listener and a good friend. Write to me. Greta Whiskeychan, Waskaganish, Quebec, J0M 1R0, P.O. Box 106. P.S. Write soon!

We wish Mrs. Sophie Bosum a speedy recovery. sincerely your friends and fans in New England.

To my daughter Kelly Judy-Ann. This is to remind you that Christmas is just around the corner. I couldn't have asked for anything better than having you home for Christmas. Even though I'm not always there for you, I just wanted to let you know that I love you very much. There is a special place for you in my heart. You mean more to me than any gift I ever received. Welcome home, Kelly. Love always, Dad (baba).

À la plus belle femme à Chibougamau, et la plus sympathique, Johanne Grenon: Nous apprécions tes efforts et nous espérons te voir plus souvent en 1996. Tes collègues de The Nation. Hi Johanne!

I would like to say hi to Albert Jolly and

Clarence Diamond in Nemaska. We miss you a lot. We hope to see you at the Val d'Or tournament. from your secret admirers in Chisasibi. xoxoxoxo.

We would like to say hi to our friend Jen-Jen (Eastmain). Have a merry Christmas. From your friends. P.S. Don't ask Santa Claus for too much toys. You might get addicted to toys.

I would like to say hi to Kevin Whiskeychan in Waskaganish. I met you in Val d'Or. Maybe we'll meet each other again someday. I wish you were her in Chisasibi Tournament in December. I miss you. P.S. Take care. xoxoxo.

We would like to say hi to Nemaska Boys. We miss you a lot. We hope we see you guys in Val d'Or tournament. That's all we can say. From your secret admirers in Chisasibi. We miss you a lot. xoxoxox. Bye! Bye!

I would like to say hi to Fredrick Georgekish in Wemindji. I saw you during the dance contest in Chisasibi. I always wanted to meet you. By the way, I don't know if you remember me. Looking forward to seeing you again. From your secret admirer. N. (Chisasibi) Luv Ya.

Sending our love and hi to Patrick Dixon. We love you and miss you. We think about you all the time. From two girls in Chisasibi who miss you like crazy.

I would like to wish a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to my cousins, Patricia Hester, Melinda Georgkish and Jessica Diamond. From your cousin Lena (Chisasibi)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to two very special Grandparents in Waskaganish, Agnes and Sidney Georgkish. From all you grandchildren in Chisasibi. Hope to see you all in the future. Margaret, Georgina, Christopher, Joanne, Lena and David-John.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! to our parents Linda and John Pash and Joseph, Nancy Sealhunter and we love you all very much. Stanley, Georgina, Justin and Adrian.

We would like to say hi to our friend in Waswanipi randy Ottereyes. How are you doing. Us we are doing great. So how are your parents. Take care friend. From your two friends in Nemaska. R.N.

I would like to say hi to Gregory. You are the cutest guy in town. How are you. I guess you are doing great with your girlfriend. I really like your smiles and your eyes. I always look at you in school. From your secret admirer. xoxoxoxo.

Dear someone I love and miss. When can we talk. Hope you feel the same way I do. Hope you'll know me (Nee) P.S. Answer back if you remember and no one has to know.



HAPPY

New Year!

to all

**Cree Communities
from the staff and
Council of the Cree
Nation of Wemindji.**



WISHING YOU A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

**TO ALL THE
CREE COMMUNITIES**

from the entire staff of
the Cree Nation of Eastmain



**FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE
NEMISCAU FIRST NATION**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM THE CHIEF AND COUNCIL OF
THE CREE NATION OF NEMISCAU**

As this is normally a time of personal reflection and planning, we would like to extend to you a wish that your dreams are met, your goals are achieved and your challenges to be exciting and fulfilling.


We have much to do, but we must be proud of our accomplishments, as they are many.

May the next year bring you all happiness and good health.

**May your New Year be a
safe and happy one!**

**Thank you for
shopping with us.**

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Committed to Serving
Wemindji's Cree Community

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**30 Beaver Road
Wemindji, Quebec
J0M 1L0
Tel.: (819) 978-3588
Fax: (819) 978-3590**

Mr. Maurice Paquin, Branch Manager, Ms. Evadney Kakabat and Sandra Hughboy, Customer Service Representatives, both from the Cree Community in Wemindji, are eager to welcome you and answer to all your personal or commercial banking needs.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Thursday	from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
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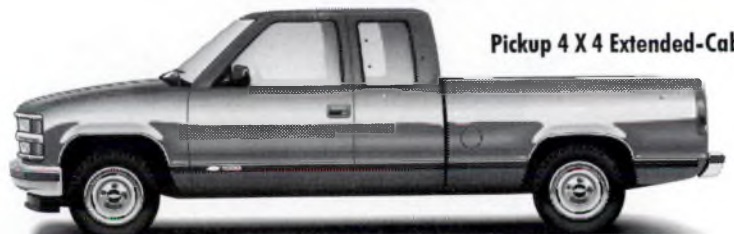
The team at Gareau Auto would like
to wish you Happy Holidays!

[illegible]

L'equipe de Gareau Auto vous
souhaite de "Joyeuses Fetes!"



SUBURBAN CHEVROLET

**Pickup 4 X 4 Extended-Cab**



1996

THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

IN NEMISCAU

*To All Members of the
Nemiscau First Nation and
Residents of Nemiscau:*

It is with great anticipation that the Chief and Council of the Nemiscau First Nation announce that 1996 is to be a celebration of the child and childhood. We are proposing this action so as to give all services and programs which operate in the Nemiscau community an opportunity to develop and deliver programs and projects which are aimed at the Nemiscau resident who is between the ages of infancy and twelve years of age.

We are looking for ideas which will give our children new experiences and challenge their imaginations. All programs should be able to enrich the child's life while encouraging him or her to learn and explore personal skills which may not have been previously noted.

Our children are our greatest resource and we need to celebrate their childhood as a time of exploration and joy.

In 1996, look for programs and services, training sessions and workshops which will help us all to ensure that each child who lives in Nemiscau will have a healthy, safe and joyous childhood experience.

*Chief George Wapachee
Cree Nation of Nemiscau*

